

Message Text

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ORIGIN AF-18

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 NEA-10 PCH-02 IO-14 SR-02 ORM-03

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10

PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20 USIA-15 ACDA-19

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R 172145Z OCT 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY LOME

INFO AMEMBASSY ACCRA

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV BY POUCH

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 206067

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, EAID, TO, IS

SUBJECT: HUNLEDE'S CALL ON ASSISTANT SECRETARY NEWSOM

1. HUNLEDE ARRIVED LATE FOR NEWSOM APPOINTMENT DUE TRAFFIC PROBLEMS AND DISCUSSION THEREFORE BRIEF.
2. HUNLEDE OPENED CONVERSATION BY STATING HE WOULD HAVE LIKED SEE NEW SECRETARY BUT REALIZED SECRETARY VERY BUSY AND THEREFORE UNDERSTANDS WHY IT PROVED IMPOSSIBLE ARRANGE APPOINTMENT.
3. HUNLEDE THEN VOLUNTEERED DESCRIPTION OF BACKGROUND TO TOGOLESE BREAK WITH ISRAEL. SAID THAT WHEN HE SAW ABBA EBAN IN NEW YORK AT 1972 UNGA HE TOLD EBAN TOGO BEING CRITICIZED BY OTHER AFRICAN GOVERNMENTS FOR CONTINUED RELATIONS WITH ISRAEL AND THAT AT ANNUAL OAU MEETINGS TOGO-
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LESE WERE ASKED WHY THEY NOT SUPPORTING FELLOW AFRICANS.

HUNLEDE SAID TOGO DID NOT AND DOES NOT INTEND BECOME INVOLVED IN REFUGEE ISSUE BUT DOES TAKE INTEREST IN QUESTION OCCUPIED TERRITORY.

4. CONTINUING ON SAME THEME, HUNLEDE SAID THAT AS SON OF PASTOR HE IS PRO-ISRAELI, AS ARE MOST OTHER TOGOLESE, BUT CONTINUED ISRAELI OCCUPATION OF CONQUERED TERRITORIES POSED REAL PROBLEM. HE HAD CALLED IN ISRAELI AMBASSADOR TO ASK THAT ISRAELIS AT LEAST MAKE A STATEMENT RENOUNCING INTENTION RETAIN OCCUPIED TERRITORIES, NOTING THAT OAU WISEMEN HAD MADE REPORT CRITICAL OF ISRAELI POSITION. ISRAELI RESPONSE TO THIS TOGOLESE REQUEST HAD BEEN EVASIVE. NATURE OF THIS RESPONSE PROVOKED RPT CENTRAL COMMITTEE MEETING, WHICH DECIDED BREAK RELATIONS. HUNLEDE SAID RUPTURE NEED NOT BE PERMANENT, AS RELATIONS COULD BE RESUMED IF ISSUE OF OCCUPIED TERRITORIES RESOLVED.

5. REPLYING ON THIS ISSUE, NEWSOM SAID US BELIEVES BEST POLICY IS TO MAINTAIN CONTACT WITH BOTH SIDES OF ARAB-ISRAELI DISPUTE. WHILE US DOES NOT ACT FOR ISRAELIS, HE NOTED, US DOES REGRET PRESENT TREND IN AFRICA TO REJECT TIES WITH ISRAEL, ALTHOUGH US RECOGNIZES REASONS PROMPTING AFRICAN GOVERNMENTS TO SO ACT.

6. HUNLEDE RESPONDED THAT SMALL NATIONS NEED PROTECTORS AND TOGO LOOKS TO UN TO PLAY THIS ROLE DUE TO HISTORY OF ITS RELATIONSHIP WITH UN AND LEAGUE OF NATIONS. TOGO THUS FEELS ITSELF ENDANGERED IF A UN RESOLUTION IS IGNORED. MOREOVER, AFRICAN GOVERNMENTS TO WHICH TOGO MIGHT TURN FOR HELP IF ATTACKED, QUOTE FOR EXAMPLE BY GHANA UNQUOTE, MIGHT REPLY BY ASKING WHAT TOGO DID WHEN ANOTHER AFRICAN STATE NEEDED HELP AGAINST STATE VIOLATING UN RESOLUTION.

7. CONVERSATION THEN PASSED ON TO KOREAN RESOLUTIONS AS REPORTED SEPTEL.

8. HUNLEDE SAID HE HAD NO BILATERAL PROBLEMS TO DISCUSS, AND NEWSOM CONCLUDED BY COMPLIMENTING MAWUSSI ON HIS EFFORTS ENCOURAGE US INVESTMENT AND AID.

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9. AFTER NEWSOM DEPARTED FOR OTHER HIGH LEVEL APPOINTMENT, MEETING CONTINUED BRIEFLY IN HIS OFFICE WITH AMBASSADOR WITMAN. HUNLEDE THEN ANNOUNCED THAT THROUGH QUOTE MIS-UNDERSTANDING UNQUOTE IN SCHEDULING HE OBLIGED TAKE EARLY RETURN FLIGHT TO NEW YORK WHERE HE HAD MADE FIRM RENDEZ-VOUS WITH UNNAMED UNDP OFFICIAL AND WOULD REGRETFULLY BE UNABLE WAIT IN DEPARTMENT FOR LATER APPOINTMENT ARRANGED WITH DEPUTY SECRETARY. HUNLEDE REJECTED ALL SUGGESTIONS

FROM DEPTOFFS AND HIS OWN AMBASSADOR INTENDED RESOLVE THIS
SUDDENLY PERCEIVED CONFLICT. KISSINGER

NOTE BY OC/T: POUCHED TEL AVIV.

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